

here for some valuable observations and it is strange that a field which lies open to every student of bird life has been so universally neglected.

In another paper the same author discusses young doves learning to drink and concludes that the first drinking is an involuntary reflex act when the bill becomes accidentally submerged and the inside of the mouth is moistened. The difference in the method of drinking in pigeons and domestic fowls is emphasized.— W. S.

Tschusi zu Schmidhoffen on Austrian Ornithological Literature for 1911.¹— A bibliography of about 400 titles, many of them local and popular, and many from journals not readily accessible in America. The list is carefully prepared and forms a valuable paper of reference while it impresses one with the enormous amount of ornithological literature that is being put forth in the world today.— W. S.

Mrs. Myers' 'The Birds' Convention.'²— This attractively printed little book is designed to interest young folk in birds and bird protection. For very little children a book of this sort, in which the birds are personified, will no doubt prove attractive, but as they grow older boys and girls, we think, soon prefer something that is not quite so obviously intended for the young. The half-tones with which the work is illustrated are excellent.— W. S.

Grinnell on Conserving the Band-tailed Pigeon as a Game Bird.³— Mr. Grinnell treats at length of the distribution, food, nesting, economic status etc., of this valuable bird in California. He concludes from the evidence collected that though widely scattered in the breeding season, in winter all the individuals inhabiting the Pacific coast gather in the valleys and foot hills of west, central and southern California. It is obviously during the latter season that the species is in danger of extermination and Mr. Grinnell considers that the decimation has gone so far that a close season of five years is the only way to bring the birds back to a status that will warrant an annual open season. Up to the present time the Band-tailed Pigeon has been left practically unprotected and its slow rate of increase — only one young being reared by each pair — has failed to keep pace with the winter slaughter, which in 1911-12 was very heavy.

¹ Ornithologische Literatur Österreich, Bosniens, und der Herzegowina, 1911. Von Viktor Ritter von Tschusi zu Schmidhoffen. Verhandl. der k. k. zool.-botan. Gesellschaft, in Wien. 1912. pp. 260-289.

² The Bird's Convention. By Harriet Williams Myers, Secretary California Audubon Society, with Illustrations from Photographs by the Author. Western Publishing Co., Los Angeles, Cal., 1912. pp. 1-81. 75 cents, postage 6 cts.

³ The Outlook for Conserving the Bend-tailed Pigeon as a Game Bird of California. The Condor, January, 1913. pp. 25-40.